

# chestnut ridge church

## OUR MISSION, STRATEGY & CORE VALUES

The mission of CRC is to lead people into a growing relationship with God and others.

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### OUR STRATEGY

We will do this primarily by creating settings where people are

***encouraged*** and ***equipped*** to pursue three ***vital relationships***:

- intimacy with God
  - community with insiders (believers)
  - influence with outsiders
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### OUR CORE VALUES:

1. Biblical authority

God has spoken to us through the Bible, and we recognize it as the final authority over our lives. We believe that God's truth is timeless, and that it applies to us today. We do not allow culturally accepted mores to supersede God's Word. We seek God's heart through what He has written in the Bible, and as we get to know God better we get to know His Word. We also believe that as we submit ourselves to God's Word, we will experience maximum freedom, not bondage.

2. intimacy with God

God desires an intimate relationship with each one of us. Therefore our goal is to help people fall in love with God. We love Him because He first loved us! We want to focus on intimacy with Him rather than on adherence to rules or rote religious observances. A relationship with God requires time, effort and openness.

3. authentic community

Spiritual growth, care, a sense of belonging and accountability occur best with relationally-connected believers. People grow best within community. Therefore, we will focus on small groups where people can experience open, authentic and spiritually-meaningful relationships.

4. relevant environments

Every setting should be designed to effectively connect with its target audience. Both the audience and the culture have to be considered as we attempt to “build bridges” and “turn on lights” for people. We cannot assume that what worked yesterday will work today. Our methods and mediums of communication must be relevant. We must ask questions such as: Who is our target audience? What does the audience need? And, what is the best way to communicate with the audience?

5. relational evangelism

God's message of forgiveness through Christ is most effectively conveyed within the context of personal relationships. As we build relationships with others, we will earn the right to speak spiritual truth into their lives. The church will partner with its members to reach their family and friends for Christ.

6. strategic service

We believe that God has a specific calling for Chestnut Ridge Church. In order to maximize our impact, we believe we have to be strategic in how we use the financial and volunteer resources God has provided to us. Therefore, we will challenge people to join with us in using their spiritual gifts to help carry out the strategy of the church.

7. intentional apprenticing

We are responsible to pass along to others the knowledge, skills and opportunities that have been entrusted to us. Therefore, we would like each person who serves to be apprenticing someone else who could do what they are doing. The intentional apprenticing core value suggests that people think not only in terms of multiplication, but replacing yourself.

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